

Kindly replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended Abstract at the end of the application following the last page of the claims. The Abstract of the Disclosure is also set forth on a separate sheet at the end of this Preliminary Amendment.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a cross-linked polyether which is obtained by polymerization of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of (a) (α -X-methyl) vinyl-EWG, (α -X-methyl) vinyl-ERG, or (α -X-methyl) vinyl-aryl, where X is oxygen, sulfur, PEG, PPG or poly (THF); (b) a monomer which is polymerizable with a PEG, PPG or poly (THF) cross-linker having at least one (α -X-methyl) vinyl-EWG, (α -X-methyl) vinyl-ERG or (α -X-methyl) vinyl-aryl, where X is oxygen, sulfur, PEG, PPG, or poly (THF); (c) a PEG, PPG, or poly (THF) cross-linker having at least an acrylamide or a methacrylamide end group; and (d) mixtures thereof. Various monomers, resins and methods for preparing such cross-linked polyethers are also disclosed.